



# Missouri School for the Deaf

505 E. 5th Street, Fulton, Missouri 65251 V/TDD: (573) 592-2504 FAX: (573) 592-2570 [www.msd.k12.mo.us](http://www.msd.k12.mo.us)

Dear MSD Families, Friends, Alumni and Visitors:

MSD is proud to be your source for:

- **Education** for Deaf and Hard of Hearing students in a bicultural/bilingual environment, with adult role models (both Deaf and Hearing), and
- **Resources** for students, their families, and the professionals who serve them.

Fifty percent (50%) of MSD graduates last spring are preparing to enter college and the remaining fifty percent have plans to go to work immediately or further their vocational and independent living skills training. Our job is to provide college preparatory coursework, vocational training, or independent living skills based on individual goals and abilities. We maintain high expectations for each student because we know that deafness is not a handicap and students have proven that they respond positively to our high expectations.

Parents, we sincerely appreciate your decision to send your precious children to us and we take that responsibility very seriously. MSD staff is aware that the residential program is equally as important as the educational program because so much of your child's education takes place outside the classroom. Thank you for entrusting us with your child's growth toward reaching their maximum potential in a safe, nurturing environment, surrounded by positive role models both Deaf and hearing. For parents who are considering MSD for your child's education, I suggest that you come on campus ... take a tour, talk with staff and see why our students say: *"I know it was hard for my parents to send me away from home to MSD, but I thank them because I have been able to be with other deaf students, participate in clubs, athletics and other activities after school. I have learned that I can do anything. I am proud of myself and am ready for a great future".*

To those of you seeking information and other assistance, MSD is a Resource Center on deafness. With our expert Outreach Services staff and our Captioned Media Program depository, we provide assistance to individuals, school districts, organizations and businesses within our state and nationally. You can view the variety of services that we provide by checking out our Resource Center's site on our webpage, email [rcd@msd.k12.mo.us](mailto:rcd@msd.k12.mo.us), or call (573) 592-2541 with your questions, requests or to schedule a visit and tour of our campus. You'll find our consultants ready and eager to share information on best practices in the education of the deaf/hard of hearing, the rich heritage of Deaf culture, Deaf history, American Sign Language, and a variety of topics relevant to the world known as the "Deaf Community" that fosters the sense of self-assuredness and Deaf Pride. What does that mean? Simply stated, we are a community that does not view the inability to hear as a disability. Instead, we are school and a community that fulfills our goals in a common language, American Sign Language, where students and staff are bilingual and bicultural and share a common focus on abilities and possibilities.



Barbara Garrison, D.D., M.Ed.  
Superintendent

name sign "  on the heart "